

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, and 9-24 are now pending in this application. Claims 4 and 8 are now cancelled. Claims 1, 10, 13, and 20 are currently amended. Support for the claim amendments is in the drawing at figure 4 and in the specification at pp. 11-12. Note that independent claims 1, 13 and 20 now each recite:

when the type of packet traffic is unicast type, selectively modifying a priority of the traffic in response to a destination parameter of a plurality of destination parameters including destination IP address, destination VLAN and egress port of the packet traffic; and

when the type of packet traffic is multicast type, selectively modifying the priority of the traffic in response to a source parameter of a plurality of source parameters including source IP address, source VLAN and ingress port of the packet traffic,

Moreover, claim 13 recites that these priority modification steps occur "when the environmental conditions meet the predetermined criteria." Further, claim 20 recites that these priority modification steps occur "when the traffic patterns of packet traffic meet the predetermined criteria." Examples of environmental conditions recited in dependent claims include time of day, network configuration changes, network failures, network congestion, network error rates, and line use of high level protocols. Examples of predetermined criteria recited in the dependent claims include traffic patterns based on specified source ports, traffic patterns based on specified destination ports, traffic patterns based on specified source MAC addresses, and traffic patterns based on specified IP flows. Applicant suggests that the cited art fails to teach or suggest these features.

The examiner is invited to contact applicant's attorney to discuss any matters which might expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

November 1, 2012

Date

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Docket No. 120-081

Dd: 11/06/2009